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file: Sen. Immigration
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Testimony Gives Celler the Shakes Hill Lid Is On Red 'Shakedown'

A bitter controversy has erupted in Congress over whether to publish portions of an Immigration Sub-committee hearing said to involve an international refugee "shakedown" by communist nations.

Thus far, the behind-the-scenes skirmish is confined to the House Judiciary Committee headed by Rep. Emanuel Celler (D., N. Y.).

He considers certain testimony given at a recent Immigration hearings so explosive he has delayed publication until he can confer with Secretary of State Dean Rusk.

LEADS FIGHT

Fighting for publication of the material is Rep. Michael Feighan, (D., Ohio), whose Immigration Sub-committee wanted to include it in a hearing print.

While the principals decline to comment, other sources said the disputed testimony was given by a Government witness. These sources said it involves an "international scandal" which nets certain communist countries "hundreds of millions of dollars yearly."

They indicated the communist nations involved are conducting a thriving global "blackmail" scheme. It was said to consist of a simple but ingenious method by which persons in the Free World can purchase exit permits for relatives behind the Iron Curtain.

HOW IT WORKS

The racket was said to work like this:

Comrade "B" has relatives overseas. Communist agents in the free country track down "B's" relations and report on their ability and willingness to purchase an exit permit for the would-be immigrant.

If the report is favorable, "B" is called in and told he may leave the country if he is willing to liquidate his possessions and holdings.

When "B" complies and providing his relatives come thru with payoffs ranging from \$1800 to \$20,000, "B" shows up in a free nation as a "refugee." He frequently has in his possession little more than his exit permit.

The rake-off often is so high it was said, that "B's" relatives cannot help him further. Free nations are said to be generous and helpful. But such refugees are reported to be a growing problem.

The scheme also was said to give communist regimes control of an underground escape network considered ideal for planting agents thruout the free world. (UPI)